

To The Commission:

I am an amateur radio operator who's been licensed 40 years, with an extra class license for thirty. Although I don't have a strong objection to RAF's petition to allow tech. operators restricted access to HF, I don't think it's a real good idea either. It is easy enough to get the proper license for that, so why experiment?

I do, however, wholeheartedly support their proposal to scrap existing Amateur Radio question pools and start afresh with ones not in the public domain, and to require a 10-day waiting period before retesting. The way it is set up now, one can memorize the answers to question pools without really knowing radio/electronic theory. Thus if a ham wants to be able to communicate with his wife by radio, he might grill her on questions from the pool which she can memorize the answers to. Thus we end up with operators of convenience who don't understand the ropes. I think a secret answer pool helps keep us honest.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Earl S. Gosnell III